OIPE JC177 JAN 13 2004 PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

#14

Atty. Dkt. No. 062834-0185

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: George H. HOFFMAN, et al.

Title: SYSTEM, METHOD AND COMPUTER PROGRAM PRODUCT FOR A DISTRIBUTOR INTERFACE IN A SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

Appl. No.: 09/815,864

Filing Date: 03/23/2001

Examiner: Gort, Elaine L.

Art Unit: 3627

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.56

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of a document known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

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TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The listed document is being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(c), before the mailing date of either a final action under 37 CFR §1.113, a notice of allowance under 37 CFR §1.113, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application.

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

All of the documents are in English.

Applicants respectfully request that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

FEE

A fee in connection with submission of an information disclosure statement under 37 CFR §1.97(c) in the amount of $180.00 in accordance with 37 CFR §1.17(p) is attached.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date January 13, 2004

By _____ Reg. No. 43,438

/Gr William T. Ellis
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 26,874

FOLEY & LARDNER
Customer Number: 22428
Telephone: (202) 672-5485
Facsimile: (202) 672-5399

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MODIFIED PTO/SB/08 (08-00)
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

Date Submitted: January 13, 2004

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 2

Complete if Known	
Application Number	09/815,864
Filing Date	03/23/2001
First Named Inventor	George H. HOFFMAN
Group Art Unit	3627
Examiner Name	GORT, Elaine L.
Attorney Docket Number	062834-0185

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.[1]	U.S. Patent Document Number	Kind Code[2] (*if known*)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	A1	5,204,821		Inui et al.	04-20-1993	
	A2	5,638,519		Haluska	06-10-1997	
	A3	5,802,502		Gell et al.	09-01-1998	
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.[1]	Foreign Patent Document Office[3]	Number[4]	Kind Code[5] (*if known*)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T[6]

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	

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Attorney Docket Number	062834-0185

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.[1]	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T[6]
	A31	Noori, Hamid; Production and Operations Management; Total Quality Responsiveness; McGraw-Hill; 1995; pages 422-519	
	A32	Noori, Hamid; Production and Operations Management; Total Quality Responsiveness; McGraw-Hill; 1995; pages 592-601	

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